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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except CA, US): SHELL INTERNATIONALE RESEARCH MAATSCHAPPIJ B.V. [NL/NL]; Carel van Bylandtlaan 30, NL-2596 HR The Hague (NL).

(71) Applicant (for CA only): SHELL CANADA LIMITED [CA/CA]; 400 - 4th Avenue S.W., Calgary, Alberta T2P 2H5 (CA).

(72) Inventor; and

(75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): CRUZ, Antonio,

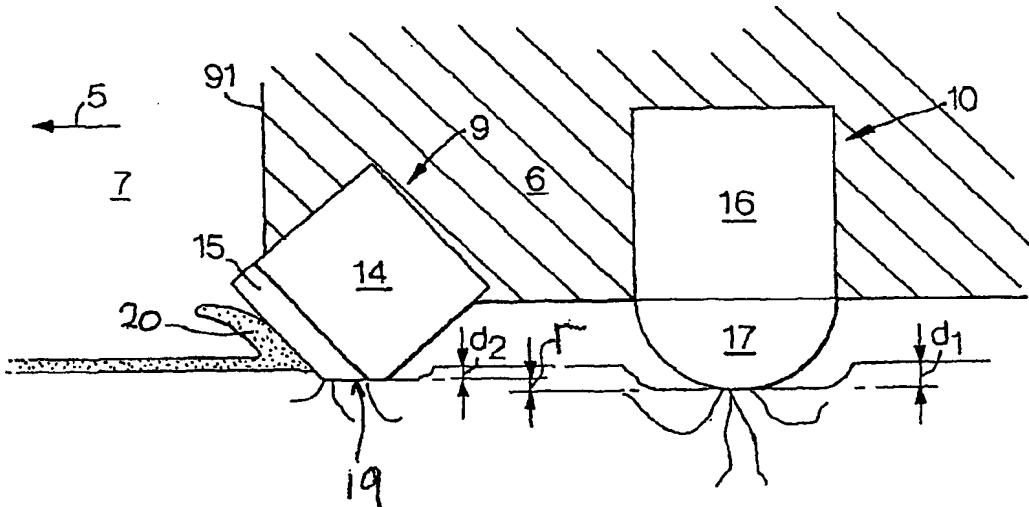
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(54) Title: PERCUSSIVE DRILL BIT



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(57) Abstract: A percussive drill bit for drilling into a subterranean earth formation, the drill bit having a central longitudinal axis and being operable by applying repetitive axial percussive impacts on the drill bit in a direction having a component along the axis and by applying rotary motion about the axis relative to the earth formation, the drill bit comprising: - one or more axial cutters for predominantly axially cutting the subterranean earth formation in response to the axial percussive impacts; - one or more shear cutters for predominantly shear cutting the subterranean earth formation in response to the rotary motion; whereby there is a first shear cutter of the one or more shear cutters, and whereby one or more of the axial cutters are arranged with respect to at least the first shear cutter to engage with the subterranean earth formation earlier during a percussive impact than at least the first shear cutter.



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